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Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/742,224

Applicant(s)

FANG ET AL.

Examiner

Mary Kate B Baran

Art Unit

2857

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 15 March 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6,8,10,11,19 and 20.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☒ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

- (a) Page 2 line 8, "most of integrated circuits" has been changed to – most integrated circuits –.
- (b) Page 2 line 10, "manufacturer" has been changed to – manufacturers –.
- (c) Page 2 line 25, "danger" has been changed to – dangerous –.
- (d) Page 4 line 17, "integrate" has been changed to – integrated –.
- (e) Page 6 line 22, "integrate" has been changed to – integrated –.
- (f) Page 7 line 23, "least squares" has been deleted.
- (g) Page 8 line 19, "corresponds" has been changed to – correspond –.
- (h) Page 8 line 24, "acquire" has been deleted.
- (i) Page 5 lines 23 and 24, "FIG. 3 is a brief flow chart of another preferred embodiments of this invention;" has been deleted.
- (j) Page 5 line 25, "FIG. 4A through FIG. 4C" has been changed to – FIG. 3A through FIG. 3C –.

2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ben Hauptman on 16 April 2004.

Response to Amendment

3. This action is responsive to the Amendments filed 15 March 2004. Claims 1-6, 8, 10, 11, 19 and 20 are pending.
4. The substitute specification filed 15 March 2004 has been entered.

Drawings

5. The drawings were received on 14 November 2003. These drawings are accepted by the Examiner.
6. The drawings are objected to because as FIG. 3 has been deleted FIG. 4A through FIG. 4C must be renumbered to FIG. 3A through FIG. 3C. A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 1-6, 8, 10, 11, 19 and 20 are allowed.
8. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims are allowable over the prior art because determining a failure rate and selecting a best burn-in time by performing a transforming process, using said

acceleration factor function to transform said simulated failure rate versus testing time function into a real failure rate versus operation time function, wherein a knee point of said real failure rate versus operation time function corresponds to an operation time which is best burn-in time; and performing a transforming process by using said acceleration factor function to transform said specific testing time into a specific real time and also transform said test life function for curve fitting into a real failure rate versus operation time function, wherein said specific real time is a best burn-in time for testing said integrated circuits is not found, taught or suggested in the prior art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

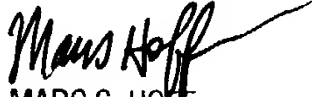
Conclusion

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mary Kate B Baran whose telephone number is (571) 272-2211. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Marc S Hoff can be reached on (571) 272-2216. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

MKB


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